# Taking Action: COVID-19 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Challenge

AN IDEAS CHALLENGE FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The National Science Foundation is excited to announce the **Taking Action: COVID-19 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Challenge!** NSF is calling on all colleges and universities to submit a 3-page written narrative of their actions or action plans to mitigate the long-term negative impacts of the pandemic on the diversity, equity and inclusion of their populations. IHEs do not need to have a grant from NSF.



### **Sponsoring Programs:**

- ADVANCE
- HBCU-UP

LSAMP

TCUP

AGEP

HSI

NSF INCLUDES



# Submission Categories

Submissions will be accepted in four population-focused categories.

#### **CATEGORIES**

Undergraduate Students: 2-YR IHEs Graduate Students /
Postdoctoral Researchers

Undergraduate
Students: 4-Yr IHEs

4 Faculty

Winners for Each	Prizes
Category	
1st	\$25,000
2nd	\$15,000
3rd	\$10,000
Honorable	Up to 10
mention	(no cash prize)

Winners will present their ideas in a national virtual meeting.



### Submission Content

#### **Submission Content:**

- 1. Description of the long-term impacts of COVID-19 on diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM education and research within one of the four categories.
- 2. Description of the evidence-informed, institutional action(s) that the IHE has, or will implement to address the anticipated long-term negative impacts on diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM.

### **Submission Format:**

- 3- page document
- References
- Optional Image



## Judging Criteria

### **Screening for Eligibility**

#### Panel Judging Criteria (100 pts):

- 1. (20 pts) How thoughtfully and carefully does the submission explain one or more anticipated significant, long-term, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on diversity, equity, and inclusion in STEM for [undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, or faculty] at their institution?
- 2. (40 pts) How thoroughly and effectively will the institutional action(s) that have been, or will be, implemented by the IHE result in systemic solutions to address the anticipated long-term impacts of the COVD-19 pandemic on DEI in STEM that were identified by the IHE?
- 3. How likely are the institutional actions described in the submission to be:(20 pts) Easily adapted and reproduced by other IHEs?(20 pts) Sustainable by the IHE and by other IHEs that potentially adapt them?

Recommend the submission for honorable mention if it is not selected for a cash prize.



### Timeline

Taking Action: COVID-19 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Challenge Stages	Key Dates
Challenge Submissions accepted – challenge promotion and outreach	October 14, 2021 - December 30, 2021
Challenge Submissions screened for eligibility by NSF and judged	January 2022
Challenge Submissions Judged By External Judges	January - February 2022
NSF Reviews the Judges Recommendations and approves winners and honorable mentions	February - March 2022
Winners and Honorable Mentions announced	March 2022
Presentations by winners and selected honorable mention designees (hosted by NSF, cash prizes awarded by NSF)	April 2022
Post winning entries and link to recorded presentations	April 2022



## Why Enter

- To widely share your IHE's plans to mitigate the long-term impacts of the pandemic on DEI in STEM at your institution.
- For the opportunity to have your idea included in the Taking Action: COVID-19 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Challenge winning ideas repository that will be archived and shared broadly.
- For national recognition of your ideas to address COVID-19 long-term impacts on diversity, equity, and inclusion in STEM.
- For the potential of your idea to be widely adopted and implemented by other IHEs, increasing the impact of your solutions.
- For an opportunity to win one of the 3 cash prizes for your institution or to be among those receiving honorable mentions for their ideas.
- For an opportunity to present your idea at an NSF organized event and be recognized for your positive contribution to DEI work in STEM to the STEM education and research communities.



### How To Enter

The submission portal can be accessed by visiting www.nsf.gov/takingaction

Submissions will be accepted until 11:59 PM EST 12/30/2021